**Statement**

*Numbers of subscribers opted for Internet*

| City/Types of Accounts | TCP/IP | Shell | Student | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Calcutta | 768 | 561 | 409 | 1738 |
| Chennai | 1679 | 1402 | 1330 | 4411 |
| Pune | 572 | 478 | — | 1050 |
| Mumbai | 5602 | 3635 | 2625 | 11862 |

**39th Telephone Adalat in Delhi**

1818. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the M.T.N.L., Delhi is holding 39th Telephone Adalat on 12th April, 1997;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some procedure to invite the issues for such Adalat has since been prescribed;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the M.T.N.L. provides fortnightly meter reading statements to subscribers on their requests on payment basis;

(f) whether some requests for supply of such statements have been received in Shakti Nagar and Chanakya Puri Exchange in 1996; and

(g) if so, details thereof with action proposed to be taken against officials for not supplying such statements?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following types of cases are to be discussed in the Adalat for settlement:

Matters related to Telephone service, excess billing, delay in opening of new telephone connection and their shifting, restoration, refund of security and rental rebate etc.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) In general, adalats are being held every 3 months. Advertisements are given in the leading Hindi/English (local) Newspapers in the first week of the month prior to the one in which Telephone adalat is to be held. Only those cases of complaints/grievances are taken in the Adalat for the settlement which have earlier not been settled by respective area G.M. and on which the correspondence has been carried out by subscriber with supporting documents. Such cases are discussed and decided as per merit.

(e) Yes, Sir, MTNL provides fortnightly meter reading to subscribers, who so desire on payment basis.

(f) Yes, Sir.

(g) 3 requests for supply of fortnightly meter reading were received by Shakti Nagar exchange, while 144 in Chanakya Puri exchange. All the requests have been complied with.

**Overall order book position of BEL**

1819. SHRI S.M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that overall order book position has declined for Bharat Electronics Limited, Bangalore particularly the orders of sound and vision broadcasting equipments; if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) the details of orders received from Defence and the Sound and Vision broadcasting orders during last three

years, year-wise and the orders finally executed during such period;

(c) The investment required for modernisation of BEL; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the company has the potential to manufacture colour TV picture tubes; if so, the limitations with Government in allowing company to do so?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): (a) The overall order book position of Bharat Electronics Limited has improved, although orders for sound and vision broadcasting equipment have declined due to limited expansion of Radio Network.

(b) the details of orders received for Defence and Sound & Vision equipment in the last three years and supplies made are as below:

| | 1994-95 | 1995-96 | 1996-97 |
|---|---|---|---|
| | (Value in Crores of Rupees) | | |
| *All orders at beginning of the year* | 1594 | 1964 | 2287<br>2388* |
| *Orders at the beginning of the year* | | | |
| Defence | 1463 | 1854 | 2216 |
| Sound & Vision | 62 | 41 | 19<br>17* |
| *Orders received during the year* | 900 | 1051 | 458* |
| Defence | 64 | 56 | 20* |
| Sound & Vision | | | |
| *Supplies made during the year* | 509 | 689 | 322* |
| Defence | 85 | 78 | 22* |
| Sound & Vision | | | |

*Figures as on 31.1.1997

(c) Modernisation is a continuous process. However no specific investment is required in the context of current range of orders.

(d) Yes, Sir. However investment decisions are made in the context of existing capacity in the country and having regard to whether this line of manufacture is in line with the objectives and growth strategy of BEL as a Defence Production Undertaking.

**Operational deficiency of Bofors gun**

1820. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 400-odd "shoot and scoot" Bofors guns which were riddled with operational deficiencies, are in a critical state without enough spares and ammunition; and if so, the reaction of Government in regard thereto;

(b) whether Government had paid 8.4 million kroners to AB Bofors for supplying spares for the Howitzer guns in 1986; and

(c) if so, whether any step was taken to reopen negotiations with Bofors for making good the credit lying with them for more than a decade; and if so, the details thereof; and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. 8.41 billion Swedish kroners was the total contractual value for 400 numbers of Guns, Ammunition and support equipment including spares. 20% of the amount was paid in advance. 80% was paid against delivered stores through credit made available by a Swedish Bank under a separate Agreement. The credit is being repaid to the Bank in instalments.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

**Arms export by US to India**

1821. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the US arms manufacturing firms are required to